

Page Denied

Random Notes

AS THIS department accurately predicted two weeks ago, former Vice-President Nixon is now officially running for governor of California and will not be the Republican Presidential candidate in 1964.

In his announcement, Nixon said he has found himself restive in his role as a practicing attorney . . . "My heart is not there," he declared, "it is in public service" . . . Meaning, of course, that every American boy has a chance to become President.

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WITH APPOINTMENT of Republicans John A. McCone as director of the CIA and William C. Foster to head the new disarmament agency, the Kennedy administration must be running short of deserving Democrats . . . McCone, former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission under Eisenhower, is highly regarded by Democrats and Republicans alike . . . William C. Foster, once a foreign aid official, was not a conspicuous success in that job.

★ ★ ★

FOUR GOOD friends have died within the past week, Charles E. Wilson, Gen. Robert Eichelberger, B. E. Hutchinson and M. E. Coyle . . . Each of them had in abundance the all too rare qualities of courage and leadership . . . And to each of them goes the country's gratitude for the contributions in war and peace.

★ ★ ★

THE JUST-CONCLUDED first session of the 87th Congress voted nearly \$50 billion in appropriations, the highest sum in peacetime history . . . Included in the foreign aid budget, according to Sen. Williams of Delaware, was an item of 48,000 cans of Metrecol for the people of South Vietnam . . . The senator quipped that the South Vietnamese "have gotten too fat on Uncle Sam's generosity." The State Department calls the Metrecol mess "an honest mistake."

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SIXTY-FOUR prominent Americans, including Eleanor Roosevelt, Archibald MacLeish and Bruce Barton have asked President Kennedy to make "population control" a condition of foreign aid, which, incidentally, they favor.

It seems their committee has just made the remarkable discovery that foreign aid "drastically reduced death rates but failed to exert a compensating influence on birth rates." The committee predicts that "a continuation of this combination of low death rate and high birth rate is a sure prelude to disaster."

Editorializing on this subject, The Minneapolis Star asks: "Will Americans allow their billions to be spent around the world without this simple condition which promises greater success in the fight for freedom?"

If the writer of the Star editorial can explain to President Kennedy how "this simple condition" can be imposed upon the peoples of India, Pakistan, Latin America and Africa . . . to name a few — he's a better man than I think he is.

JOHN S. KNIGHT